UNCLASSIFIED Department of State

rec 12 INCOMING TELEGRAM

PAGE #1 ACTION INR-18

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INFO LOG-ES AMAD-81 PH-18

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P 2628322 OCT 15 FM FBIS CHIVA CHIVA PM TO AIG 457# USCONSOL ANT FT CLAYTON PH//G2// PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION BALBOA PM COMUSFORCARIE KEY WEST FL AMEMBASSY PANAMA CITY SECSTATE WASH DC//FOR ARA/PAN// FBIS ASUNCION PA FBIS KEY WEST FL CDR 28TH HI BN FT DAVIS PH//AFZU-HI-C// PDG COROZAL PH ACCT FBPA-EVDK

SYE-88 SP-82

UNCLAS 6P

SUBJ

REF PA268451 PANAMA CITY CRITICA SPANISH 25 OCT -- PANAMA: MORIEGA PRAISED FOR KIDNAPPING MEDIATION

EL SALVADOR: TERRORISTS FAIL TO RELEASE MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

SAN SALVADOR EL DIARIO DE HOY IN SPANISH 26 OCT 85

((TEXT)) THE TERRORIST LEADERS HAVE GIVEN NO EXPLANATION ON THE NIME MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS WHOSE WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THEY WERE INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF 38 PERSONS WHO WERE TO BE RELEASED BY THE TERRORISTS IN EXCHANGE FOR 22 SUBVERSIVES IN SAN SALVADOR PRISONS.

AS HAS BEEN REPORTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE KIDNAPPING OF ... INES GUADALUPE DUARTE, THERE WERE REGOTIATIONS THAT LED TO WHAT HAS BEEN REPORTED AS AN EXCHANGE. THE GOVERNMENT OFFERED THE RELEASE OF 27 TERRORISTS AND PERMISSION FOR 96 CRIPPLED GUERRILLAS WHO WERE IN THE HOUNTAINS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. THE FHLM LEADERS PROMISED THAT THEY WOULD RELEASE INES DUARTE, HER FRIEND, AND 38 HUNICIPAL OFFICIALS.

HOWEVER, THERE WAS GENERAL SURPRISE WHEN IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT THE TERRORISTS ONLY RELEASED 23 HAYORS AND DID NOT RELEASE 9 OTHERS (IFIGURES AS PUBLISHED)). ONE OF THE OFFICIALS WHO HAS NOT BEEN RELEASED IS JOSE ARTURO VELASQUEZ, ALDERHAN OF ULUAZAPA, SAN HIGUEL DEPARTMENT, WHO WAS KIDNAPPED ON 18 HARCH 1985 AND WHO WAS SEEN IN THE HANDS OF THE TERRUNISTS IN PERQUIN. ANOTHER OFFICIAL IN THE SAME SITUATION IS JOSE SANTOS FRANCISCO FLOREZ, HAYOR OF CACAOPERA. OTHERS ARE CASIMIRO FUENTES, LUIS ALONSO RIOS, AND VICTOR MANUEL MELENDEZ, WHO ARE POLICEMEN OF CACAOPERA. THE OTHERS ARE JOSE RUFINO RAMOS, A DRIVER ALSO FROM CACAOPERA; AND PEDRO DUAL AND RENE RAMOS, FROM CACAOPERA ALSO; AND VICTORIANO HERRERA, A FORMER MAYOR WHO WAS TAKEN BY FORCE FROM HIS HOME BY TERRORISTS.

THE RELATIVES OF THE PERSONS WHO HAVE NOT BEEN RELEASED HAVE ASKED THOSE PERSONS WHO MEDIATED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, ESPECIALLY ARCHBISHOP RIVERA Y DAMAS AND PRIEST IGNACIO ELLACURIA, TO PROTEST STRONGLY BECAUSE-THE AGREEHENT-HAS NOT BEEN FULFILLED AND TO IMMEDIATELY MEET WITH THE INTERMEDIARIES IN PANAMA, ESPECIALLY WITH GENERAL NORIEGA.

THE RELATIVES HAVE ALSO ASKED PRESIDENT DUARTE TO HAKE EFFORTS TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF THE MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS, WHO ARE

HUMBLE AND HARD-WORKING PEOPLE, SINCE THERE CANNOT BE A "HUMANIZATION OF THE CONFLICT" WHEN SOME PEOPLE ARE RELEASED AND OTHERS ARE HELD.

YESTERDAY SOME RELATIVES OF THE KIDNAPPED OFFICIALS HADE TELEPHONE CALLS TO EL DIARIO DE HOY TO SAY THAT THEY HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL INTENSIFY ITS EFFORTS TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF THEIR LOVED ONES.

(ENDALL) 26 OCT R62858Z OCT

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Approved for Release AUG. 1994